19th August 1925]

*Prevention of encroachments on country tracks.*

*96 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are satisfied that the local boards are taking suitable steps to prevent encroachments on, and damage to the country tracks not maintained by the local boards and the measures they propose to take to safeguard the interests of the public in the adequate protection of these tracks ?

*A.*—Local boards are not at present in a position to take suitable steps to prevent encroachments on country tracks ; the matter is already engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I think in this matter the people are between the deep sea and the other amiable gentleman. These tracks are needed very much by the ryots and the Revenue Department do not pay any attention to them. I do not know if the Department of Local Self-Government is safeguarding the interests of the ryots. I would like to know at what stage the matter stands."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" I have already stated the matter is engaging the attention of the Government."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" May I ask how it is engaging the attention of the Government ? "

*Adverse balances in the taluk board of Rayadrug, etc.*

* 97 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average annual deficit which the taluk board of Rayadrug, Bellary district, was not expected to make good from its resources ; and

(*b*) how many of the boards mentioned in paragraph 39 of the enclosure to the letter of the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, published in G.O. No. 1603, L. & M., dated 11th May 1925, have closed with adverse balances in excess of that of the Rayadrug taluk board ?

*A.*—(*a*) Rupees 3,455.

(*b*) Eleven boards (exclusive of two Agency taluk boards and one union board). The Accountant-General has reported that none of the eleven boards has an adverse balance in the treasury at present. The policy of Government is to disestablish only such boards as have *recurring* deficits and are unable to attain solvency.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" With reference to clause (*b*), may I know if the eleven boards mentioned here had adverse balances in excess of that of the Rayadrug taluk board ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" That might be so. At present the eleven boards have no deficits."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know if the hon. Minister is prepared to say that for instance the Harpanahalli Taluk Board does not end with a deficit balance ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" No."